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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2002

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Report Highlights:

Export prices declined slightly due mainly to inactive demand and reduced concerns over the flood-damaged paddy crop, coupled with more coming out of new paddy crop.

Includes PSD changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report

Bangkok [TH1], TH

Indicative Price (Week Ending Oct 21):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	335	325	381	356	350	324	330	343	344
WR 100 B	194	188	196	194	189	193	191	192	193
PB 5%	190	190	196	199	195	204	195	196	197
WR 5%	187	183	190	187	184	186	187	186	188
WR 10%	184	178	186	185	178	184	183	183	184
WR 15%	180	175	182	182	174	182	179	179	180
WR 25%	175	170	178	180	170	173	175	174	176
WR 35%	171	169	176	179	169	171	171	172	173
A 1 SUP	160	156	164	161	156	160	158	159	160
A 1 SPEC	159	154	163	160	154	NQ	157	158	158
Source: Average actual prices are received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for most grade of rices declined slightly, reflecting inactive demand and slowing down in the delivery of outstanding contracts. Moreover, trade sources reported that the concerns over the flood-damaged 2002/03 paddy crop abated, as new crop started to come out more to the market. However, export prices are expected to firm over a couple of weeks if the government intervention program is active at its start in the beginning of November 2002. As for Baht against U.S. dollar, Baht is stronger to 43.8 baht/U.S. dollar on Oct 21, 2002 against the seven-month low at 44.1 baht/U.S. dollar on Oct 14, 2002.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
SEP 21	94,086	95,681	4,182	4,921
SEP 28	109,612	98,448	4,292	5,107
OCT 5	147,337	109,553	4,439	5,267
OCT 12	159,290	127,581	4,599	5,454
OCT 19	163,877	145,029	4,762	5,646

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002 do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports for Oct 13-19, 2002 totaled 163,877 tons, up 4,587 tons from the previous week and up 18,848 tons from the four week moving average of 145,029 tons.

Exports during Jan 1- Oct 20, 2002 amounted to 4,768,952 tons, compared with 5,646,004 tons (including fragrant rice) during the same period in 2001.

Fragrant rice exports during Jan - Sep 2002 totaled 1,076,556 tons. Total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan - Sep 2002 were 4,902,460 tons, down 4.5% from the corresponding period in 2001.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period Sep 30-Oct 4, Oct 7-11, and Oct 14-18,2002 are as follows:

Movement	Sep 30-Oct 4	Oct 7-11	Oct 14-18
weekly sales	152,615	179,563	141,717
4 week sum	541,401	562,108	590,325
4 week mov avg.	135,350	140,527	147,581
Total weekly sales	3,519,860	3,699,423	3,841,140